

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An information distribution device, comprising:

a first storage portion for storing terminal
5 information including an address of each terminal device
belonging to a group constituted by a plurality of terminal
devices;

a first receiving portion for receiving, from a
terminal device belonging to said group, a distribution
10 request including access information and distribution
destination information, said access information being
required for accessing distribution information for
distribution to all, some or one of said terminal devices
belonging to said group, said distribution destination
15 information specifying a distribution destination terminal
device belonging to said group;

a second receiving portion for accessing said
distribution information based on said access information
included in a distribution request received by said first
20 receiving portion, and for receiving the distribution
information;

a second storage portion for storing said distribution
information received by said second receiving portion; and

a first transmitting portion for specifying an address
25 of a distribution destination terminal device based on said
distribution destination information included in a
distribution request received by said first receiving

portion, and said terminal information stored in said first storage portion, and for distributing to said specified destination terminal device said distribution information stored in said second storage portion.

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2. The information distribution device according to claim 1, further comprising a third receiving portion for receiving a bill of charges from a device, said device billing for said distribution information charges when said distribution information is chargeable.

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3. The information distribution device according to claim 2, further comprising a second transmitting portion for transmitting said bill of charges received by said third receiving portion either to a terminal device which transmitted said distribution request or to a telecommunications carrier to which this terminal device subscribes.

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4. The information distribution device according to claim 1, further comprising a deleting portion for deleting said distribution information stored in said second storage portion after the distribution of said distribution information by said first transmitting portion.

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5. The information distribution device according to claim 1, further comprising a third transmitting portion for

transmitting notification, to the terminal device which transmitted said distribution request, of the fact that distribution has been completed, after the distribution of said distribution information by said first transmitting
5 portion.

6. The information distribution device according to claim 1, wherein said distribution request further includes additional information added to said distribution
10 information, and said first transmitting portion distributes said additional information in addition to said distribution information.

7. The information distribution device according to claim 1, wherein said distribution request further includes a distribution time for specifying a time for distributing said distribution information, and said first transmitting
15 portion distributes said distribution information at said distribution time.

8. The information distribution device according to claim 1,
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wherein said terminal device information stored in said first storage portion includes information for
25 representing an information format displayable on a display portion of the terminal device, and

wherein said information distribution device further comprises a conversion/filtering portion for converting or filtering said distribution information to a format capable of being displayed on a display portion of said terminal device, based on said information for representing said displayable information format.

9. The information distribution device according to claim 1, wherein said first receiving portion receives said distribution request from said terminal device via another server device.

10. The information distribution device according to claim 1, wherein said distribution information is either a program including a game program, said program and a license for said program, map information, or product information.

11. A terminal device, comprising:
a registration portion for registering, via a telecommunications network, terminal information including an address of each terminal device belonging to a group constituted by a plurality of terminal devices, in an information distribution device connected to the telecommunications network; and

a transmitting portion for transmitting, to said information distribution device, a distribution request

including access information and distribution destination information, said access information being required for accessing distribution information for distribution to all, some or one of said terminal devices belonging to said group, said distribution destination information specifying a distribution destination terminal device belonging to said group.

12. The terminal device according to claim 11, wherein said distribution request further includes additional information added to said distribution information.

13. The terminal device according to claim 11, wherein said distribution request further includes a distribution time for specifying a time for distributing said distribution information.

14. The terminal device according to claim 11, wherein said distribution information is either a program including a game program, said program and a license for said program, map information, or product information.

15. An information distribution system having a plurality of terminal devices and an information distribution device, wherein said terminal device comprises:

a registration portion for registering, in said information distribution device, terminal information

including an address of each terminal device belonging to a group constituted by a plurality of terminal devices; and

a transmitting portion for transmitting, to said information distribution device, a distribution request including access information and distribution destination information, said access information being required for accessing distribution information for distribution to all, some or one of said terminal devices belonging to said group, said distribution destination information specifying a distribution destination terminal device belonging to said group,

and wherein said information distribution device comprises:

a first storage portion for storing terminal information registered by said registration portion of said terminal device,

a first receiving portion for receiving said distribution request transmitted by said transmitting portion;

a second receiving portion for accessing said distribution information based on said access information included in a distribution request received by said first receiving portion, and for receiving said distribution information; and

a distributing portion for specifying an address of a distribution destination terminal device based on said distribution destination information included in a

distribution request received by said first receiving
portion, and terminal information stored in said first
storage portion, and for distributing, to said specified
destination terminal device, distribution information
5 received by said second receiving portion.

16. An information distribution method, performed by a
server device which stores terminal information including
an address of each terminal device belonging to a group
10 constituted by a plurality of terminal devices, comprising
the steps of:

receiving, from a terminal device belonging to said
group, a distribution request including access information
and distribution destination information, said access
15 information being required for accessing distribution
information for distribution to all, some or one of said
terminal devices belonging to said group, said distribution
destination information specifying a distribution
destination terminal device belonging to said group;

20 accessing said distribution information based on said
access information included in said received distribution
request, and receiving said distribution information; and

specifying an address of a distribution destination
terminal device based on said distribution destination
25 information included in said received distribution request,
and said stored terminal information, and distributing said

received distribution information to said destination terminal device.

17. An information distribution method, performed by a terminal device connected to a telecommunications network, comprising the steps of:

registering, via said telecommunications network, terminal information including an address of each terminal device belonging to a group constituted by a plurality of terminal devices, in an information distribution device connected to this telecommunications network; and

transmitting, to said information distribution device, a distribution request including access information and distribution destination information, said access information being required for accessing distribution information for distribution to all, some or one of said terminal devices belonging to said group, said distribution destination information specifying a distribution destination terminal device belonging to said group.

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18. An information distribution method for an information distribution system having a plurality of terminal devices and an information distribution device, comprising steps of:

said terminal device registering, in said information distribution device, terminal information including an

address of each terminal device belonging to a group
constituted by a plurality of terminal devices;

said terminal device transmitting, to said information
distribution device, a distribution request including
5 access information and distribution destination information,
said access information being required for accessing
distribution information for distribution to all, some or
one of said terminal devices belonging to said group, said
distribution destination information specifying a
10 distribution destination terminal device belonging to said
group,

said information distribution device storing said
terminal information registered by said terminal device;

said information distribution device receiving said
15 distribution request transmitted from said terminal device;

said information distribution device accessing said
distribution information based on said access information
included in said received distribution request, and
receiving said distribution information; and

20 said information distribution device specifying an
address of a distribution destination terminal device based
on said distribution destination information included in
said received distribution request, and said terminal
information, and distributing said received distribution
25 information to said specified destination terminal device.

19. An information distribution program product,
comprising:

5 a receiving process for receiving, from a terminal
device belonging to a group constituted by a plurality of
terminal devices, a distribution request including access
information and distribution destination information, said
access information being required for accessing
distribution information for distribution to all, some or
one of said terminal devices belonging to said group, said
10 distribution destination information specifying a
distribution destination terminal device belonging to said
group;

15 a accessing process for accessing said distribution
information based on said access information included in
said received distribution request, to receive the
distribution information; and

20 a specifying process for specifying an address of a
distribution destination terminal device based on said
distribution destination information included in said
received distribution request, and terminal information
including an address of each terminal device belonging to
said group, to distribute said received distribution
information to said destination terminal device.

25 20. An information distribution program product,
comprising:

5 a registering process for registering, via a
telecommunications network, terminal information including
an address of each terminal device belonging to a group
constituted by a plurality of terminal devices, in an
information distribution device connected to the
telecommunications network; and

10 a transmitting process for transmitting, to said
information distribution device, a distribution request
including access information and distribution destination
information, said access information being required for
accessing distribution information for distribution to all,
some or one of said terminal devices belonging to said
group, said distribution destination information specifying
a distribution destination terminal device belonging to
15 said group.